

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /072 W

----- 088909

O R 171430Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4259

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0896

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PINT , SF, RH, ZA, UK, BC

SUBJECT: SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA, A LONG, HARD ROAD AHEAD

REF: GABORONE 1704, LUSAKA 2549

1. AMBASSADOR BOLEN'S CONVERSATION WITH BOTSWANA MINISTER OF
STATE MOGWE AND EMBASSY LUSAKA'S COMMENTS ON RHODESIAN
CEASEFIRE

(REFTELS) UNDERSCORE LIKELIHOOD THAT SATISFACTORY
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RESOLUTION OF RHODESIA IS GOING TO BE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE.

IT TRUE THAT EVENTS IN PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES SINCE APRIL 25 AND INCREASED PRESSURE BY VORSTER HAVE PUSHED SMITH TO ACCEPT CERTAIN BASES FOR SETTLEMENT WHICH HE HAD BEEN RESISTING FOR YEARS. NEVERTHELESS, FACT THAT SMITH STILL HAS TO CONTEND WITH DIE-HARD RIGHT-WING EXTREMIST WHITE RHODESIANS AND THAT HE IS GOING TO GIVE ONLY AS MUCH AS HE FEELS ABSOLUTELY COMPELLED TO BY CIRCUMSTANCES MAKE IT UNDERSTANDABLE THAT AFRICANS CONTINUE TO DISTRUST HIM. IN ADDITION, HE HAS THUS FAR AVOIDED COMMITTING HIMSELF TO PRINCIPLE OF MAJORITY RULE.

2. PEACEFUL, NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA WILL BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO OUR INTERESTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA IN PARTICULAR AND THROUGHOUT AFRICA IN GENERAL. IN VIEW OF DIFFICULTIES THAT LIE ALONG ROAD TO AGREEMENT, I CONCUR WITH AMBASSADOR BOLEN'S RECOMMENDATION THAT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SHOULD CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR SETTLEMENT AND THAT, IN PARTICULAR, THE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD PROCEED VIGOROUSLY WITH ACTION TO REPEAL BYRD AMENDMENT.
HURD

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